

## **POTATO STRIP CUTTING DECELERATION SYSTEM**

## **ABSTRACT**

5 The invention relates to a food processing system. A fluid conduit of the  
system is configured for directing the food carried in a fluid medium along a food path. The  
system has a food inlet operatively associated with the fluid conduit for feeding the food  
into the conduit, and a pump operatively associated with the conduit for pumping the fluid  
through the conduit in a fluid stream direction. A processor unit is associated with the  
10 conduit, disposed along the food path, and includes a tool configured and associated with  
the conduit for performing a processing operation on the food, such as cutting potatoes into  
french fry strips. The system also has a deceleration element operatively associated with the  
conduit and configured for decelerating the fluid and carried food along the food path while  
maintaining the fluid flow substantially free of recirculation vortices.